

# MINUTES

OF THE

TWENTY-SEVENTH ANNUAL SESSION

OF THE

## WARRIOR RIVER BAPTIST ASSOCIATION,

HELD WITH

### LIBERTY BAPTIST CHURCH,

BLOUNT COUNTY, ALA.,

*October 17th and 18th, 1885.*

#### OFFICERS:

W. Y. ADAMS, Moderator,

Walnut Grove, Alabama.

SAM'L J. COX, Clerk,

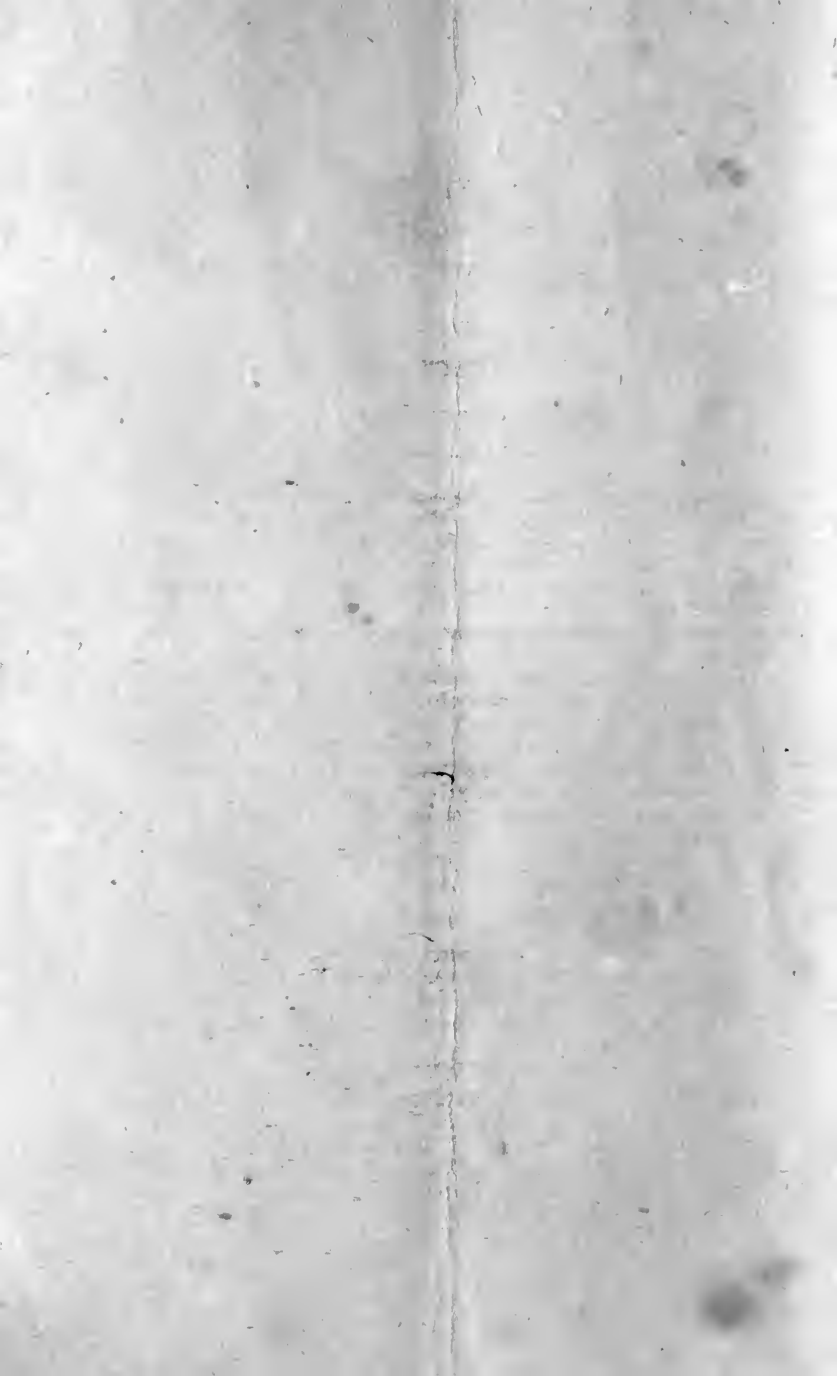
Gun Spring, Alabama.

J. D. HENDRICKS, Treasurer,

Liberty, Alabama.

GADSDEN, ALA.:

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1886.



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The Warrior River Baptist Association met with Liberty Baptist Church, Saturday, the 17th day of October, 1885. The introductory sermon was preached by Rev. C. C. Collins. Text: 2 Cor., 13. 5. Took recess until 2 P. M.

Body met for business at the hour appointed. Prayer by Rev. James Fields.

Elected W. Y. Adams Moderator *pro tem.*, and Saul J. Cox Clerk *pro tem.*

W. H. Jones, W. C. Ward and Elijah Moore were appointed to read letters from various churches. Letters from Warrior Creek churches were laid on the table. Called for petitionary letters. Rehoboth, Mt. Pisgah and Mt. Zion presented letters for admission, were received and right hand of fellowship extended to messengers in behalf of the body by the moderator.

The body was permanently organized by electing Rev. W. Y. Adams Moderator and Saul J. Cox Secretary. The chair appointed W. H. Lyon, W. L. Ellison and deacons of Liberty church as acting devotional committee.

CORRESPONDENTS.

Welcomed Rev. P. M. Musgrove, T. B. Moore and John Starns, from Cullman; Wm. Franklin and Rev. R. W. Inzer, from Canaan; Rev. J. B. Wade, from Etowah. On motion, Rev. W. M. Cole was welcomed as representative of the State Mission Board.

RETURNED CORRESPONDENTS.

To Canaan, W. M. Cole, A. W. Tucker, and P. J. Ellis; Cullman, L. Casey, W. H. Jones, S. T. Collier, P. J. Ellis, Rev. E. J. Barksdale, J. D. Jordan, W. H. Lyon and E. P. Patterson; Sulphur Spring, W. M. Cole, P. J. Ellis, and S. J. Cox; Etowah, J. D. Jordan, J. S. Johnson, A. Dorman, I. T. Stephens, W. L. Ellison, D. P. Carr and G. F. Arnett; Mt. Carmel, W. H. Lyon

and W. C. Morris; Baptist State Convention, Reverends W. M. Cole, A. Dorman, P. J. Ellis, James Smith, E. M. Bowerman, W. Y. Adams, and Brethren W. H. Jones, W. H. Musgrove, W. L. Ellison, M. Ray, John A. Dean and John D. Hendricks.

Appointed committees, viz: Executive—John D. Hendricks, W. L. Ellison, John A. Dean, W. H. Jones and S. J. Cox. Finance—W. L. Ellison and T. K. McDonald. Documents—W. H. Jones and W. C. Ward.

Adjourned to meet 8 A. M. Monday. Prayer by Rev. James Fields.

Preaching Saturday night by E. J. Barksdale and J. D. Jordan. Sunday School address Sunday morning by G. M. Millner. Preaching at 11 A. M. by J. D. Pettit and G. B. Wade. Preaching at 3 P. M. by R. A. Cox. Preaching at 7 P. M. by G. M. Millner and E. J. Bagwell.

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MONDAY MORNING, 8 O'CLOCK.

The session was opened with prayer by Rev. H. C. Reed. Extended invitation to visiting ministers; received H. C. Reed and J. W. Trotter.

On motion, letters from Warrior Creek churches were taken from the table and referred to special committee, viz: W. H. Lyon, S. S. Live, D. P. Coley, A. F. Whitley and T. K. McDonald.

Suspended regular order of business to hear report on Sabbath Schools, which was received, discussed and adopted.

REPORT.—Living in the extreme north eastern portion of this Association, we know very little as to what is being done in our bounds. We hope Sabbath Schools are on the increase. There is not that interest in them that should be. We have been too silent on this important subject. Hence we would earnestly urge pastors to bring the subject of Sabbath Schools before their churches, and labor to show the importance of so great a work. Organize Sabbath Schools and take up collections for Sabbath School purposes. We would recommend that some one be appointed to deliver a Sabbath School lecture at each session of this Association.

W. C. WARD, Chairman.

RESOLUTION.—*Resolved*, That this body redistrict the Association so as to make four divisions. Committee appointed to do the work, viz: E. J. Barksdale, E. K. Head and R. Holms.

On motion, each pastor was requested to present to his churches respectively the subject of mission, first opportunity after this session of the Association.

REPORT ON EDUCATION.—ADOPTED.

We find the common school system in quite a prosperous condition. *Yet our people* are not fully awake to the higher order of education. We must give our children these advan-

tages in order to develop that high order of character, calculated to wield such an influence as will make our principle prominent. We cannot too earnestly urge the importance of patronizing our denominational schools. These afford opportunities for becoming acquainted with our distinctive principles. We would urge upon the body the importance of educating our young men who feel that they have been called to the work of the ministry. If they cannot go to the Howard or the Seminary, we can send them to good schools in our midst where they can have the advantages of good instruction.

J. D. PETTIT, Chairman.

#### REPORT ON DOCUMENTS.—ADOPTED.

We find applications from Austin's Creek, Mt. Vernon and Beulah churches for the next session of the Association. We recommend that the next session be held with Beulah church, four miles east of Albertville, Marshall county, Ala. The Association to meet Friday before the third Sunday in October, 1886.

We also find a request for letter of dismission from Roswell Creek to join Cullman Association, and recommend that said letter be granted.

W. H. JONES, Chairman.

#### REPORT OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.—ADOPTED.

Owing to the small amount collected from last year's pledges we were unable to employ a regular missionary. Bro. W. Y. Adams did three months gratuitous work. Bro. S. C. Collier supplied to places of destitution, and organized two churches, for which we were able to pay him only \$11.00. We have paid \$18.00 to the Board of Ministerial Education. Beulah church paid \$3.00 to Secretary of Educational Board at Birmingham, Ala. The remainder of pledges remains unpaid. We would urge the churches to give us the means that we may supply the great demand, and aid the Master's cause.

J. D. HENDRICKS, Chairman.

#### REPORT OF TREASURER.—ADOPTED.

John D. Hendricks, Treasurer in account with Warrior River Baptist Association.

#### *Debit.*

|   |                |
|---|----------------|
| To balance at last Association (1884).....        | \$26 95        |
| (1885.) To amount received (Donator unknown)..... | 10             |
| “ “ “ from Albertville church.....                | 5 00           |
| “ “ “ “ J. E. Murphree.....                       | 2 50           |
| “ “ “ “ A. L. Cornelius.....                      | 5 00           |
| “ “ “ “ J. D. Hendricks .....                     | 5 00           |
| “ “ “ “ John A. Dean.....                         | 5 00           |
| Total.....  | <u>\$49 55</u> |

*Credit.*

|  |                |
|--|----------------|
| (Oct., 1884.) By amount paid E. J. Barksdale.....  | \$20 00        |
| (1885.) By amount paid T. M. Bailey (H. M.).....   | 1 00           |
| "      "      " A. J. Waldrop (Minst. F.).....     | 1 00           |
| "      "      " T. L. Hudgens.....                 | 12 00          |
| "      "      " A. J. Waldrop.....                 | 5 00           |
| "      "      " S. T. Collier (for Mins. work).... | 11 00          |
| <b>Total.....</b>                                  | <b>\$50 00</b> |

*Synopsis.*

|                                   |           |
|-----------------------------------|-----------|
| Received.....                     | \$49 55   |
| Paid out.....                     | 50 00     |
| <b>Balance due Treasurer.....</b> | <b>45</b> |

Took recess for one hour.

Body met pursuant to adjournment.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON ARRANGEMENT OF ORDER OF BUSINESS FOR  
NEXT SESSION OF THE ASSOCIATION.—RECEIVED AND ADOPTED.

1. Read letters.
2. Elect officers.
3. Invite visiting ministers and call for correspondents.
4. Call for petitionary letters.
5. Appoint acting committees, viz: On Devotion, Deceased Ministers, Sabbath Schools, Nominations, Missions, Finance, Temperance, Education and Documents.
6. Call for report of Executive Committee.
7. Call for report of Treasurer.
8. Appoint Corresponding Messengers.
9. Elect Executive Committee and Treasurer.
10. Appoint Messengers to State Convention.
11. Provide for printing and distribution of minutes.
12. Call for report of committees (in order as appointed).
13. Miscellaneous business.

Respectfully submitted,

G. M. MILLNER, Chairman.

Notice given that there will be a resolution introduced, at the next meeting of the Association, to amend Article 11 of the Constitution by leaving off the latter clause of said article, beginning with the word

Preaching in the grove at 3 P. M. by Rev. R. W. Inzer.

Elected by acclamation Rev. J. D. Pettit, W. M. Cole alternate, to preach the introductory sermon at next meeting of the Association; Sunday School address by W. Y. Adams, and James P. Smith alternate; G. M. Millner to preach the missionary sermon on Sunday, E. J. Barksdale alternate. Elected by ballot C. C.

Collins to supply the destitute within the bounds of the Association. The Executive committee was instructed to arrange with Bro. Collins the time to begin work and salary to be paid.

#### SUBSCRIPTION FOR STATE MISSION.

|                  | Cash.   | Credit.  |                  | Cash.   | Credit.  |
|------------------|---------|----------|------------------|---------|----------|
| Mt. Tabor.....   | \$ 5 00 | \$ 15 00 | Mt. Vernon....   | \$ 1 75 | \$       |
| Anstin's Creek.. |         | 6 00     | Mt. Olive.....   |         | 5 00     |
| Antioch .....    |         | 20 00    | Albertville ..   |         | 5 00     |
| Liberty Hill...  |         | 3 00     | Dry Creek....    |         | 3 00     |
| New Macedonia    | 5 00    |          | Beulah .....     | 8 70    | 20 00    |
| Rock Springs ..  |         | 1 00     | Sardis .....     | 1 70    | 5 00     |
| Macedonia .....  |         | 5 00     | Mt. Pisgah....   |         | 1 00     |
| Clear Spring...  |         | 5 00     | Mt. Zion .....   |         | 1 00     |
| Blue Spring...   |         | 5 00     | Rehoboth .....   |         | 2 50     |
| Harmony .....    |         | 10 00    | Hopewell .....   |         | 1 00     |
| Friendship ..... |         | 10 00    | Nancy Hyatt ..   | 25      |          |
| Liberty .....    |         | 25 00    | J. W. Trotter .. |         | 2 00     |
| Mt. Pleasant ..  |         | 5 00     |                  |         |          |
| Pine Bluff ....  | 1 75    | 2 00     | Total.....       | \$24 15 | \$176 50 |
| Pleasant Grove   |         | 2 00     | For Indigent ..  |         |          |
| Mt. Carmel ..... |         | 2 00     | Minister, Rev.   |         |          |
| Bethel .....     |         | 15 00    | Q. Lawrence,     |         | 4 40     |

#### SUBSCRIPTION FOR MINISTERIAL EDUCATION.

|  |         |
|--|---------|
| E. J. Barksdale, Albertville, Ala..... | \$ 1 00 |
| H. C. Reed, Summit, Ala.....           | 1 00    |
| M. W. Griffith, Summit, Ala.....       | 1 00    |
| W. C. Morris, Summit, Ala.....         | 1 00    |
| C. C. Hughes, Summit, Ala.....         | 1 00    |
| H. W. Head, Blountsville, Ala.....     | 1 00    |
| J. D. Jourdan, Lot, Ala.....           | 1 00    |
| W. H. Musgrove, Gum Spring, Ala.....   | 1 00    |
| Mary L. Cox, Gum Spring, Ala.....      | 1 00    |
| S. T. Collier, Albertville, Ala.....   | 2 50    |
| Total .....                            | \$11 50 |

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON FINANCE.—ADOPTED.

|                      | Minute Fund. | State Mis. | For. Mis. |
|----------------------|--------------|------------|-----------|
| Mt. Tabor .....      | \$ 1 35      | \$ 5 00    | \$ ....   |
| White Plains .....   | 70           | .....      | .....     |
| Roswell Creek .....  | 40           | .....      | .....     |
| Austin's Creek ..... | 1 50         | .....      | .....     |
| Antioch .....        | 2 00         | .....      | .....     |
| Warrior Creek .....  | .....        | .....      | .....     |
| Liberty Hill .....   | 1 30         | .....      | .....     |
| New Macedonia .....  | 80           | 5 00       | .....     |
| Rock Spring .....    | 1 75         | .....      | .....     |
| Macedonia .....      | 80           | .....      | .....     |
| Mt. High .....       | .....        | .....      | .....     |
| Clear Spring .....   | 1 50         | .....      | .....     |
| Blue Spring .....    | 1 00         | .....      | .....     |
| Harmony .....        | 2 50         | .....      | .....     |
| Friendship .....     | 3 00         | .....      | .....     |
| Liberty .....        | 2 50         | .....      | .....     |
| Mt. Pleasant .....   | 1 00         | .....      | .....     |
| Pine Bluff .....     | 1 75         | 1 75       | .....     |
| Pleasant Grove ..... | 1 50         | .....      | .....     |
| Mt. Carmel .....     | 1 00         | .....      | .....     |
| Bethel .....         | 2 00         | .....      | .....     |
| Mt. Vernon .....     | 1 20         | 1 75       | .....     |
| Mt. Olive .....      | 1 00         | .....      | .....     |
| Albertville .....    | 2 00         | .....      | .....     |
| Dry Creek .....      | 50           | .....      | .....     |
| Beulah .....         | 1 68         | 8 70       | .....     |
| Sardis .....         | 1 00         | 1 70       | .....     |
| Pleasant Hill .....  | .....        | .....      | .....     |
| Mt. Pisgah .....     | 1 30         | .....      | .....     |
| Mt. Zion .....       | 1 25         | .....      | .....     |
| Rehoboth .....       | 60           | .....      | .....     |
| Hopewell .....       | 75           | .....      | .....     |
| Bethlehem .....      | 1 00         | .....      | .....     |
| Nancy Hyatt .....    | .....        | 25         | .....     |
| Total .....          | \$39 58      | \$24 15    | \$ .....  |

STATEMENT.

|                          |         |
|--------------------------|---------|
| Minute Fund .....        | \$39 58 |
| State Missions .....     | 24 15   |
| Indigent Ministers ..... | 4 40    |
| Total amount .....       | \$68.13 |

W. L. ELLISON, Chairman.



REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON REDISTRICTING THE ASSOCIATION.—ADOPTED.

FIRST DISTRICT—Rehoboth, Mt. Olive, Albeville, Beulah, New Macedonia, Sardis and Mt. Vernon.

SECOND DISTRICT—Rock Spring, Pleasant Grove, Clear Spring, Blue Spring, Friendship, Mt. Zion and Macedonia.

THIRD DISTRICT—Warrior Creek, Pleasant Hill; Mt. Pleasant, Harmony, Bethel, Mt. Pisgah and Mt. Carmel.

FOURTH DISTRICT—Anticeh, Liberty, Liberty Hill, Mt. Tabor, Dry Creek, Austin's Creek, White Plains and Pine Bluff.

Union meeting in first district, with Albertville, Friday before the fourth Sunday in April, 1886.

In second district, with Pleasant Grove, Friday before the second Sunday in May, 1886.

In third district, with Bethel, Friday before fifth Sunday in May, 1886.

In fourth district, with Liberty Hill, Friday before the fourth Sunday in May, 1886.

We recommend that the churches at which these meetings are to be held appoint a committee on arrangements, that the committee appoint some one to preach the introductory sermon and notify them of the same, that the committee arrange subjects for consideration of the bodies and assign each subject to some one for introduction.

We would further recommend that each union set the time of holding her next session and report the same to the annual meeting of the Association.

Respectfully submitted,

E. J. BARKSDALE, Chairman.

REPORT ON MISSIONS.—ADOPTED.

We have our State Mission work, which is entrusted to a board located at Selma, Ala. Our Home Mission work, which is under charge of the Home Mission, located at Atlanta, Ga., and our Foreign Mission work, which is controlled by a board located at Richmond, Va. These claim our attention and need our contributions to aid in the propagation of the truth. The Executive Committee has not seen fit to employ a missionary the past year. There has been no work done, for which we owe. We find some gratuitous work done. We would most earnestly urge upon this body the great importance of supplying the destitution in our bounds, and recommend the body to employ a Missionary to this end at once, whose duty it shall be to preach in destitute places, to bring the claims of the above boards before the people and to disseminate Baptist literature.

W. Y. ADAMS, Chairman.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON WARRIOR CREEK TROUBLES.

We, your committee appointed to investigate the Warrior creek troubles, beg leave to report, that after discharging this duty to the best of our ability, find from the facts before us, the one claiming the name of the old standard Warrior creek to be the true church. Adopted. W. H. LYONS, Chairman.

QUERIES AND ANSWERS.

1. Is it legal for Baptist churches to letter out members while they are in a state of individual non-fellowship, and what should be done with churches organized with such members? The body answers, it is not legal, and churches organized with such members should not be admitted into the Association.

2. Has a church the right to deprive a deacon of his office without calling a Presbytery to sound his faith? The body answers in the affirmative.

3. What should be done with a church member who does not attend conference? Deal with him according to the teachings of the New Testament.

On motion, the clerk was directed to have published in this minute the Declarations of Faith and Rules of Decorum.

*Resolved*, By the members of this body, that they unanimously return their thanks to the members of Liberty church, and to the people in and around the vicinity, for their kind hospitality during this session.

Letters of dismission were granted to Clear Spring and Blue Spring churches.

On motion, the Clerk was authorized to keep ten dollars of the minute funds as payment for his services, and use the balance in paying for the printing of minutes.

Prayer by Rev. R. W. Inzer. Adjourned to meet with Beulah church, Friday, at 11 A. M., before the third Sunday in October, 1886.

W. Y. ADAMS, Moderator.

SAUL J. COX, Secretary.

NAMES OF MESSENGERS.

Mt. Tabor: W. H. Jones, W. H. Musgrove, W. Y. Adams and Saul J. Cox. White Plains: — Austin's Creek: E. K. Head, A. L. Pass and H. W. Head. Liberty Hill: W. C. Campbell, W. F. Barnett and W. L. Campbell. Antioch: J. D. Pettit and D. P. Coley. New Macedonia: Richard Roe and J. R. Mayo. Roswell Creek: M. W. Griffin and James Barnett. Warrior Creek: — Rock Spring: W. H. Lyons, R. V. Buckhannon and J. W. Hughes. Macedonia: J. D. Lowrey, Y. B. Rhodes and L. Hopkins. Hopewell: O. P. McDonald, J. E. Bagwell and J. W. Brown. Mt. High: — Clear Spring: W. L. Casey and M. C. Morris. Blue Spring: Sam'l Nixon, A. B. Cox and W. T. Lame. Harmony:

A. Dorman, W. L. Ellison and A. F. Whitley. Friendship: S. Maberry, James Fowler and C. C. Collins. Liberty: J. W. Crumby, A. J. Griffin, R. J. Towers and I. T. Stephens. Mt. Pleasant: T. K. McDonald, M. Ray and Elijah Moore. Pleasant Grove: A. J. Mosley and Presley Hames. Pine Bluff: P. J. Ellis, E. P. Patterson and J. L. Rutherford. Mt. Carmel: E. Hatley, J. Wadsworth and W. R. Jourdan. Bethel: R. A. Cox, R. M. Holms and W. Sanders. Mt. Vernon: S. S. Love, C. D. Wright and W. Gillespie. Dry Creek: M. Pass, H. Marsh and L. F. Chitwood. Albertville: E. J. Barksdale, S. T. Collier and J. S. Johnson. Sardis: J. W. Daniel and David Carr. Beulah: J. D. Jourdan, S. A. Stewart and G. M. Millner. Pleasant Hill: — Mt. Olive: W. C. Ward. Rehoboth: G. F. Arnett. Mt. Pisgah: Wm. Woodall, Wm. Harris and C. Buckner. Mt. Zion: W. B. Orr.

## DECLARATIONS OF FAITH.

### I.—OF THE SCRIPTURES.

We believe that the Holy Bible was written by men divinely inspired and is a perfect treasure of heavenly instruction; that it has God for its author, salvation for its end and truth without any mixture of error for its matter; that it reveals the principles by which God will judge us; and, therefore, is and shall remain to the end of the world, the true centre of christian union, and the supremestandard by which all human conduct, creeds and opinions shall be tried. Places in the Bible where taught: ii Tim. 3. 16, 17; ii Pet 1. 21; ii Sam'l 23. 2; Acts 1. 16, 3. 21; John 10. 35; Luke 16. 29-31; Ps. 119. 3; Rom 3. 1, 2; ii Tim. 3. 15; i Pet 1. 10-12; Acts 11. 14; Rom. 1 16; Mark 16. 16; John 5. 38, 39; Prov. 30. 5, 8; John 17. 17; Rev 22. 18, 19; Rom 3. 4; Rom 2. 12; John 12. 47, 48; Cor 4. 3, 4; Luke 10. 10-16; 12. 47-48; Phil 3. 16; Ephes 4. 3-6; Phil. 2. 1, 2; i Cor 1. 10; i Pet 4. 11; i John 4. 1; Isaiah 8. 20; i Thess 5. 21; ii Cor. 13. 5; Acts 17. 11; i John 4. 6; Jude 3. 5; Ephes 6. 17; Ps 119. 59, 60; Phil 1. 9-11.

### II.—OF THE TRUE GOD.

We believe that there is one, and only one living and true God, an infinite, intelligent Spirit, whose name Jehovah, the Maker and Supreme Ruler of heaven and earth; inexpressibly glorious in holiness, and worthy of all possible honor, confidence and love; that in the unity of the Godhead there are three persons, the Father, the Son and the Holy Ghost; equal in every divine perfection, and executing distinct but harmonious offices in the great work of redemption. Places in the Bible where taught: John 2. 24; Ps 147. 5; 83. 18; Heb 3. 4; Rom 1. 20; Jer 10. 10; Ex 15. 11; Isa 6. 3; i Pet 1. 15. 16; Rev 4. 6-8; Mark 12. 30; Rev 4. 11 Matt 10. 37; Jer 2. 12; 13; Matt 28. 19; John 15. 26; i Cor 12. 4-6; i John 5. 7; John 10. 30; 5. 17; 14, 23; 17. 5, 10; Acts 5. 3, 4; i Cor 2. 10, 11; Phil 2. 5, 6; Ephes 2. 18; ii Cor 13. 14; Rev 1. 4, 5; Comp 2. 7.

### III.—OF THE FALL OF MAN.

We believe that man was created in holiness, under the law of his Maker; but by voluntary transgression fell from that holy and happy state; in consequence of which all men are now sinners, not by constraint but choice; being by nature utterly void of that holiness required by the law of God, positively inclined to evil; and therefore under condemnation to eternal ruin, without defence or excuse. Places in the Bible where taught: Gen 1. 27; 1. 31; Eccles 7. 29; Acts 15. 26; Gen 2. 16; 3. 6-24; Rom 5. 12; 5. 19; John 3. 6; Ps 51. 5; Rom 5. 15-19; 8. 7; Isa 53. 6; Gen 6. 12; Rom 3. 9-18; Ephes 2. 1-3; Rom 1. 18; 1. 32; 2. 1-16; Gal 3. 10; Matt 20. 15; Ez. 18. 19, 20; Rom 1. 20; 3. 19; Gal 3. 22.

### IV.—OF THE WAY OF SALVATION.

We believe that the salvation of sinners is wholly of grace through the mediatorial offices of the Son of God; who by the appointment of the Father, freely took upon him our nature, yet without sin; honored the divine law by his personal obedience, and by his death made a full atonement for our sins; that having risen from the dead, he is now enthroned in heaven; and uniting in his wonderful person the tenderest sympathies with divine perfections, he is every way qualified to be a suitable, a compassionate and an allsufficient Saviour. Places in the Bible where taught: Eph 2. 5; Matt 18. 11; i John 4. 10; i Cor 3. 5-7; Acts 15. 11; John 3. 16; 1. 1-14; Heb 4. 14; 12. 24; Phil 2. 6, 7; Heb 2. 9, 14; ii Cor 5. 21; Isa 42. 21; Phil 2. 8; Gal 4. 4, 5; Rom 3. 21; Isa 53. 4, 5; Matt 20. 28; Rom 4. 25; 3. 21-26; i John 4. 10; 2. 3; i Cor 15. 1-3; Heb 9. 13-15; 1. 8; 1. 3; 8. 1; Col 3. 1-4; Heb 7. 25; Col 2. 9; Heb 2. 18; 7. 26; Ps 89. 19; 45.

### V.—OF JUSTIFICATION.

We believe that the great Gospel blessing which Christ secures to such as believe in him is justification; that justification includes the pardon of sin, and the promise of eternal life on principles of righteousness; that it is bestowed, not in consideration of any works of righteousness which we have done, but solely through faith in the Redeemer's blood; by virtue of which faith His perfect righteousness is freely imputed to us of God; that it brings us into a state of most blessed peace and favor with God, and secures every other blessing needful for time and eternity. Places in the Bible where taught: John 1. 16; Ephes 3. 8; Acts 8. 39; Isa 3. 11, 12; Rom 8. 1; 5. 9; Zech 8. 1; Matt 9. 6; Acts 10. 43; Rom 5. 17; Titus 3. 5, 6; i Pet 3. 7; i John 2. 25; Rom 5. 21; 4. 4, 5; Rom 5. 21; 6. 23; Phil 3. 7-9; Rom 5. 19; 3. 24-26; 4. 23-25; i John 2. 12; Rom 5. 1, 2; 5. 3; 5. 11; i Cor 1. 30, 31; Matt 6. 33; i Tim 4. 8.

### VI.—OF THE FREENESS OF SALVATION.

We believe that the blessings of salvation are made free to all by the Gospel; that immediate duty of all accept them by a cordial, penitent and obedient faith; and that nothing prevents the salvation of the greatest sinner on earth, but his own inherent depravity and voluntary rejection of the Gospel; which rejection involves him in an aggravated condemnation. Places in the Bible where taught: Isa 55. 1; Rev 22. 17; Rom 16. 26; Mark 1. 15; Rom 1. 15-17; John 5. 40; Matt 23. 37; Rom 9. 32; Prov 1. 24; Acts 13. 46; John 3. 19; Matt 11. 20; Luke 19. 27; ii Thos 1. 8; Luke 14. 17.

## VII.—OF GRACE IN REGENERATION.

We believe that in order to be saved, sinners must be regenerated, or born again; that regeneration consists in giving a holy disposition to the mind; that it is effected in a manner above our comprehension by the power of the Holy Spirit, in connection with divine truth, so as to secure our voluntary obedience to the Gospel; and that its proper evidence appears in the holy fruits of repentance, and faith, and newness of life. Places in the Bible where taught: i Cor 1. 14; Rev 8. 7-9; 21. 27; ii Cor 5. 17; Ez 36. 26; Dent 30. 6; Rom 2. 28, 29; 5. 5; i John 4. 7; John 3. 8; John 1. 13; James 1. 16-18; i Cor 1. 30; Phil 2. 13; i Pet 1. 22-25; i John 5. 1; Eph 4. 20-24; Col 3. 9-11; Eph 5. 9; Rom 8. 9; Gal 5. 16-24; Eph 3. 14-21; Matt 3, 8-10; 7. 10; John 3. 3; i John 5. 4, 18.

## VIII.—OF REPENTANCE AND FAITH.

We believe that repentance and faith are sacred duties, and also, inseparable graces, wrought in our souls by the regenerating spirit of God; whereby being deeply convinced of our guilt, danger and helplessness, and of the way of salvation by Christ, we turn to God with unfeigned contrition, confession, and supplication for mercy; at the same time heartily receiving the Lord Jesus Christ as our Prophet, Priest and King and relying on Him alone as the only and all-sufficient Saviour. Places in the Bible where taught: Mark 1. 15; Acts 11. 18; Ephes 2. 8; i John 5. 1; John 16. 8; Acts 2. 37, 38; Acts 16. 30, 31; Luke 18. 13; Luke 15. 18-21; James 4. 6-10; ii Cor 7. 11; Rom 10. 12, 13; Ps 5. 1; Rom 10. 9-11; Acts 3. 22, 23; Heb 4. 14; Ps 2. 6; Heb 1. 18; 8. 25; ii Tim 1. 12.

## IX.—OF GOD'S PURPOSE OF GRACE.

We believe that election is the eternal purpose of God, according to which He graciously regenerates, sanctifies and saves sinners; that being perfectly consistent with the free agency of man, it comprehends all the means in connection with the end; that it is a most glorious display of God's sovereign goodness, being infinitely free, wise, holy and unchangeable; that utterly excludes boasting, and promotes humility, love, prayer, praise, trust in God, and active imitation of His free mercy; that it encourages the use of means in the highest degree; that it may be ascertained by its effects in all who truly believe the Gospel; that it is the foundation of Christian assurance; and that to ascertain it with regard to ourselves demands and deserves the utmost diligence. Places in the Bible where taught: ii Tim 1. 8, 9; Ephes 1. 3-14; i Pet 1. 1, 2; Rom 11. 5, 6; John 15. 16; i John 4. 19; Hos 12. 9; ii Thes 2. 13, 14; Acts 14. 48; John 10. 16; Matt 20. 16; Acts 15. 14; Ex 33. 18, 17; Matt 20. 15; Ephes 1. 11; Rom 9. 23, 24; Jer 31. 3; Rom 11. 28, 29; James 1. 17, 18; ii Tim 1. 9; Rom 11. 32-36; i Cor 4. 7; i Cor 1. 26-31; Rom 3. 27; 4. 16; Col 3. 12; i Cor 3. 5-7; 15. 10; i Pet 5. 10; Acts 1. 24; i Thes 2. 13; i Pet 2. 9; Luke 18. 7; John 15. 16; Ephes 1. 16; i Thes 2. 12; ii Tim 2. 10; i Cor 9. 22; John 6. 37-40; i Thes 1. 4-10; Rom 8. 28-30; Isa 42. 16; Rom 11. 29; ii Pet. 1. 10, 11; Phil 3. 12; Heb 6. 11.

## X.—OF SANCTIFICATION.

We believe that sanctification is the process by which, according to the will of God, we are made partakers of His holiness; that it is a progressive work; that it is begun in regeneration and that it is carried on in the hearts of believers by the presence and power of the Holy Spirit, the Sealer and Comforter, in the continual use of the appointed means—especially, the Word of God, self-examination, self-denial, watchfulness

and prayer. Places in the Bible where taught: Thes 4. 3; i Thes 5. 23; ii Cor 7. 1; 13. 9; Ephes 1. 4; Prov 4. 18; ii Cor 3. 18; Heb 6. 1; ii Pet 1. 5-8; Phil 3. 12, 16; John 2. 29; Rom 8. 5; John 3. 6; Phil 1. 9-11; Ephes 1. 13, 14; Phil 2. 12, 13; Ephes 4. 11, 12; i Pet 2. 2; ii Pet 3. 18; ii Cor 13. 5; Luke 11. 35; 9. 23; Matt 26. 41; Ephes 6. 18; 4. 30.

#### XI.—OF THE PERSEVERANCE OF SAINTS.

We believe that such only are real believers as endure to the end; that their persevering attachment to Christ is the grand mark which distinguishes them from the superficial professors: that a special providence watches over their welfare; and they are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation. Places in the Bible where taught: John 8. 31; i John 2. 27, 28; 3. 9; 5. 18; i John 2. 19 John 13. 18; Matt 13. 20, 21; John 6. 66-69; Job 17. 9; Rom 8. 28; Matt 6. 30-33; Jer 32. 40; Ps 121. 3; 91. 12; Phil 2. 12, 13; Jude 24. 25; Heb 1. 14; Kings 6. 16; Heb 13. 5; i John 4. 4.

#### XII.—OF THE HARMONY OF THE LAW AND THE GOSPEL.

We believe that the law of God is the eternal and unchangeable rule of His moral government; that it is holy, just and good; and that the inability which the Scriptures ascribe to fallen men to fulfill its precepts, arise entirely from their love of sin; to deliver them from which, and to restore them through a mediator to unfeigned obedience to the holy law, is one great end of the Gospel and of the means of grace connected with the establishment of the visible church. Places in the Bible where taught: Rom 3. 31; Matt 5. 17; Luke 16. 17; Rom 3. 20; 5. 15; Rom 7. 7, 12, 14, 22; Gal 3. 21; Ps 119; Josh 24. 19; Jer 13. 23; John 6. 44; 5. 44; Rom 8. 2, 4, 7, 8; 10. 4; i Tim 1. 5; Heb 8. 10; Jude 20, 21; Heb 12. 14. Matt 16. 17, 18; i Cor 12. 28.

#### XIII.—OF A GOSPEL CHURCH.

We believe that a visible Church of Christ is a congregation of baptised believers, associated by covenant in the faith and fellowship of the Gospel; observing the ordinances of Christ; governed by laws; and exercising the gifts, rights and privileges invested in them by His word; that its only scriptural officers or Bishops or Pastors and Deacons, whose qualifications, claims and duties are defined in the Epistle to Timothy and Titus. Places in the Bible where taught: i Cor 1. 1-13; Matt 18. 17; Acts 5. 11; 8. 1; 11. 31; i Cor 4. 11, 17; 14. 23; iii John 9; i Tim 3. 5; Acts 2. 41, 42, 47; ii Cor 8. 5; i Cor 5. 12, 13; 11. 2, 3; ii Thes 3. 6; Rom 16. 17-20; Matt 18. 15-20; i Cor 5. 6; ii Cor 2. 7; Matt 28. 20; John 14. 15, 21; 15. 12; i John 4. 21; i Thes 4. 29; ii John 6; Gal 6. 2; Ephes 4. 7; i Cor 14. 12; Phil 1. 1, 27; i Cor 12. 14; Acts 14. 23; 15. 22; i Tim 3; Titus 1.

#### XIV.—OF BAPTISM AND THE LORD'S SUPPER.

We believe that christian Baptism is the immersion in water of a believer, into the name of the Father, and Son, and the Holy Ghost: to show forth in a solemn and beautiful emblem, our faith in the crucified, buried and risen Saviour, with its effect in our death to sin and resurrection to a new life; that it is prerequisite to the privileges of a church relation and to the Lord's supper, in which the members of the church by the sacred use of bread and wine are to commemorate together the dying love of Christ; preceded always by solemn self-examination. Places in the Bible where taught: Matt 3. 5, 6; John 3. 22, 23; 4. 1, 2; Mark 16. 16; Acts 2. 38; 8. 12, 36; 18. 8; 16. 32-34; 10. 47, 48; Gal 3. 27, 28; Rom 6. 4; Col 2. 12; i Pet 3. 20, 21; Acts 22. 16; 2. 41, 42; Matt 28. 19, 20; i Cor 11. 26; Matt 26. 26-29; Mark 14. 22, 25; Luke 22. 14-20; i Cor 11. 28; i Cor 5. 1. 8; 10. 3-32; 11. 17, 22; John 6. 26-71.

XV.—OF THE CHRISTIAN SABBATH.

We believe that the first day of the week is the Lord's Day, or Christian Sabbath; and is to be kept sacred to religious purposes, by abstaining from all secular labor and sinful recreations, by the devout observance of all the means of grace, both private and public; and by preparation for that rest that remaineth for the people of God. Places in the Bible where taught: Acts 20. 7; Gen. 2. 3; Col 2. 16, 17; Mark 2. 27; John 20. 19; i Cor 16. 1, 2; Ex 20. 8; Rev 1. 10; Ps 118. 15, 24; Isa 58. 13, 14; 56. 2-8; Heb 10. 24, 25; Acts 11. 26; 13. 44; Lev. 19. 30; Ex 46. 3; Luke 4. 16; Acts 17. 2, 3; Ps 26. 8; 87. 3; Heb 4. 3-11.

XVI.—OF CIVIL GOVERNMENT.

We believe that Civil Government is of Divine appointment, for the interests and good order of human society; and that magistrates are to be prayed for, conscientiously honored and obeyed, except only in things opposed to the will of our Lord Jesus Christ, who is the only Lord of the conscience, and the Prince of the kings of the earth. Places in the Bible where taught: Rom 13. 1-7; Deut 16. 18; ii Sam 23. 3; Ex 18. 23; Jer 30. 21; Matt 22. 21; Titus 3. 1; i Pet 2. 13; i Tim 2. 1-8; Acts 5. 29; Dan 3. 15-18; 6. 7-10; Acts 4. 18-20; Matt 23. 10; 10. 28; Rom 14. 4, 9-13; Rev 19. 16; Ps 72. 11; 2.

XVII.—OF THE RIGHTEOUS AND THE WICKED.

We believe that there is a radical and essential difference between the righteous and the wicked; that such only as through faith are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus, and sanctified by the spirit of our God, are truly righteous in His esteem; while all such as continue in impenitence and unbelief are in His sight wicked, and under the curse; and this distinction holds among men both in and after death. Places in the Bible where taught: Matt 3. 18; Prov 12. 26; Isa 5. 20; Gen 18. 23; Jer 15. 19; Acts 10. 34, 35; Rom 6. 16, 18, 20; 1. 17; 7. 6; i John 2. 29; 3. 7; i Cor 11. 32; Prov 11. 31; i Pet 4. 17, 18; i John 5. 19; Gal 3. 10; John 3. 36; Isa 57. 21; Ps 10. 4; Isa 55. 6, 7; Prov 14. 32; Luke 16. 25; John 8. 21-24; Prov 10. 24; Luke 12. 4, 5; 9. 23-26; John 12. 25, 26; Eccl 3. 17; Matt 13. 14.

XVIII.—OF THE WORLD TO COME.

We believe that the end of this world is approaching; that at the Last Day, Christ will descend from heaven and raise the dead from the grave to final retribution; that a solemn separation will then take place; that the wicked will be adjudged to endless punishment, and the righteous to endless joy; and that this judgment will fix forever the final state of man in heaven or hell, on principles of righteousness. Places in the Bible where taught: i Pet 4. 7; i Cor 7. 29-31; Heb 1. 10-12; Matt 24. 35; i John 2. 17, 28; Matt 28. 20; 13. 37, 39, 40, 43, 48; ii Pet 3. 3-13; Acts 1. 11; Heb 9. 28; Acts 3. 21; i Thes 4. 13-18; 5. 1-11; Acts 24. 15; i Cor 15. 12-58; Luke 14. 14; Dan 12. 2; John 5. 28, 29; 6. 40; 11. 25, 26; ii Tim 1. 10; Acts 10. 42; Matt 24. 30, 31; 25. 31-33; 25. 35-41; Rev 22. 11; i Cor 6. 9, 10; Mark 9. 43-48; ii Pet 2. 9; Jude 7; Phil 3. 19; Rom 6. 22; ii Cor. 5. 10, 11; John 4. 36; ii Cor 4. 18; Rom 3. 5, 6; ii Thes 1. 6-12; Heb 6. 1, 2; i Cor 4. 5; Acts 17. 31; Rom 2. 2-16; Rev 20. 11, 12; i John 14. 17; Rev 1. 7.

# STATISTICAL TABLE.

| CHURCHES.      | PASTORS.      | CLERKS.      | POST OFFICE.   | Sabbath of Meeting | Received by Letter | Restored. | Dismiss'd by Letter | Excluded. | Deceased. | Total Membership. |
|----------------|---------------|--------------|----------------|--------------------|--------------------|-----------|---------------------|-----------|-----------|-------------------|
| Mt. Tabor .... | W M Cole...   | J H Dunlap   | Gum Spring.    | 2 6 9              |                    |           | 1 1                 |           |           | 52                |
| White Plains.  | P J Ellis.    | AL Glasscock | Bangor         | 1                  |                    |           | 8                   |           | 3         | 25                |
| Austin's Creek | W M Cole      | H W Head     | Blountsville   | 1 10               | 4                  | 4         | 7 6                 |           | 1         | 91                |
| Antioch .....  | J D Pettit.   | F P Smith    | Liberty .....  | 3 7 4              |                    |           | 15                  |           |           | 74                |
| Hopewell.      | J E Bagwell.  | OP M'Donald  |                |                    | 6 10               |           | 4                   |           |           | 45                |
| New Macedonia  | E J Barksdale | J W Mayo     | Albertville    | 2 10 6             |                    |           | 24                  |           |           | 38                |
| Liberty Hill   | A Dorman      | E M Cox      | HulDAH.        | 2 23 5             |                    |           | 6 3                 |           |           | 67                |
| Roswell Creek. | P R Tenyson   | M W Griffin  | Summit.        | 3 4 5              |                    |           |                     |           | 2         | 23                |
| Warrior Creek  |               |              |                |                    |                    |           |                     |           |           |                   |
| Rock Spring    | C C Collins.  | W C Goodwin  | Sidney         | 4 19 8             |                    | 1 6       | 4 2                 |           |           | 96                |
| Macedonia      | J E Bagwell   | J D Lowery   | Brooksville    | 4 2 4              | 1                  |           | 3 1                 |           |           | 28                |
| Mt. High       |               |              |                |                    |                    |           |                     |           |           |                   |
| Clear Spring   | J E Bagwell.  | W P Goodwin  | Sidney         | 3 9 5              | 3                  | 8         | 1                   |           |           | 53                |
| Blue Spring    | J E Bagwell.  | Kimbrough    | Sidney         | 1 22 15            |                    | 3 5       |                     |           |           | 60                |
| Harmony        | A Dorman      | W L Ellison  | Walnut Grove   | 1 14 11            |                    | 1         |                     | 1         |           | 102               |
| Friendship.    | C C Collins.  | Phillips.    | Friendship.    | 1 6 4              | 6 28               | 20        |                     |           |           | 133               |
| Liberty.       | G B Wade      | I T Stephens | Murphr's Val.  | 4 11 9             | 2 8                |           |                     |           |           | 114               |
| Mt. Pleasant   | C C Collins   | E Moore      | Wynnvill.      | 3 10 10            | 1 4                |           |                     |           |           | 52                |
| Pleasant Grove | J T Evans     | H M Mahon    |                | 1 5 2              | 3                  |           |                     |           | 1         | 40                |
| Pine Bluff.    | W M Cole      | V W Conway   | Little Warrior | 3                  | 1                  | 7 8       | 1                   |           |           | 65                |
| Mt. Carmel     | T S Logan     | J T Blaylock | Murphr's Val.  | 1 6 3              | 1 3 5              |           |                     |           |           | 48                |
| Bethel.        | R A Cox       | W B Sanders  | Wynnvill.      | 4 10 20            |                    | 3         |                     |           |           | 78                |
| Mt. Vernon     | G B Wade      | C D Wright   | Red Apple.     | 1 2 8              |                    | 10 2      | 3                   |           |           | 70                |
| Dry Creek.     | P J Ellis     | L T Chitwood | Chepultepec    | 2                  |                    | 1 1       |                     |           |           | 9                 |
| Albertville.   | E J Barksdale | S M York     | Albertville.   | 4 38 26            |                    | 24        |                     |           |           | 86                |
| Sardis         | J D Jordan    | J C Vaughn   | Lot            |                    | 7                  |           | 1 1                 |           |           | 47                |
| Beulah         | J D Jordan    | J Bishop     | Lot            | 3 6 12             | 1 6                |           |                     |           | 1         | 71                |
| Pleasant Hill. |               |              |                |                    |                    |           |                     |           |           |                   |
| Mt. Olive      | P J Corley    | W C Ward     | Guntersville.  | 3 7 2              |                    |           |                     |           | 1         | 30                |
| Rehoboth.      | S T Collier.  | J P Whitman  | Guntersville.  | 3 7                |                    |           |                     |           |           | 26                |
| Mt. Pisgah     | A Dorman      | W A Moody    | Nix            | 3 6 23             |                    |           |                     |           |           | 29                |
| Mt. Zion       | J D Jordan    | W K Amos.    | Gladney        |                    | 12 7               |           |                     |           |           | 28                |

Total Membership.....1690



